Multi-Cultural Affairs

Participants of the Minority Assistance Program, McNair and Student Support Services

> Your are invited to the 1st Annual Building Academic Success" Student Retreat

> > Date: Saturday February 13, 1999 Time: 9:00-2:00p.m. Place: City Campus Union

Asthma Patients Wanted for Asthma Research Study

Males/Females at least 15 years old using inhaler such as Albuterol, Ventolin or Proventil as needed. Nine office visits over approx. 6 months. Free study-related exam & Study Medication.

Compensation for Participation. For More Information, contact Marge or Kelli at 464-6139

Allergy, Asthma & Immunology Associates, PC 600 North Cotner Blvd, Suite 206 Lincoln, NE 68505

Sue Tidball

Award

for

Creative Humanity

Nominations for the award may be submitted by anyone associated with UNL.

· Residence Hall front desks, SA's & Maintenance offices

Student Involvement offices, NU 200 & ECU 300

· Facility Maintenance & Landscape Service offices

Cornerstone, 640 N. 16th 68588-0440 - 476-0355

Nominations are due February 8, 1999

More information, nomination forms, and guidelines are available at:

· Most college, school and division offices

· Office of Student Affairs, Admin. 106

Website: http://www.unl.edu/tidball/

IFC-Panhellenic, NU 332

· Culture Center, 333 N. 14th St. Human Resources, Admin. 407

This annual award is presented to

one, two or three people (students,

faculty or staff at UNL).

contributions to the development

of a humane, educationally

creative, just, and caring

community on the UNL campus.

recognizes significant



HANK MITCHELL (Bill Paxton, left) reassures his brother Jacob (Billy Bob Thornton) in "A Simple Plan," a typical caper about greed, deceit and family that winds up with atypical twists.

'Simple Plan' isn't so simple

■ Sam Raimi and Scott B. Smith load their movie with paranoia, greed, lies, violence, money and Billy Bob Thornton, so of course it's got to be good.

> By JEFF RANDALL Senior staff writer

First impressions may mean everything, but "A Simple Plan" is a film that defies first impressions.

The film's trailers make it look and sound like a visual remake of "Fargo." The film's plot synopsis sounds like a thousand other crime-

But "A Simple Plan" treads familiar ground only on its surface. Just beneath it, director Sam Raimi and screenwriter Scott B. Smith infuse this tale with emotion, surprise and deft pacing. And the cast, led by Bill Paxton and Billy Bob Thornton, is equally compelling.

The plot goes something like this - Hank Mitchell (Paxton) is a responsible husband and soon-to-be father who, along with his slow-witted older brother Jacob (Thornton) and his brother's alcoholic best friend Lou (Brent Briscoe), finds \$4 million in a downed plane in the woods. This motley trio decide to split the money among themselves after sitting on it for a few months, just to make sure no one comes looking for it.

But soon enough, the threesome's paranoia, greed and anxiety take over, turning their plan into an irreversible mess. Bodies start piling up, more laws start to get broken and all of the characters slowly begin to realize what they've gotten themselves into.

The mental and eventually physical struggles between the characters create a tense atmosphere throughout the film. And the uncharacteristic visual restraint of director Raimi pushes this tension to the forefront, rather than relegating it to subplot

Smith's screenplay moves along well and throws in enough subtle sidetracks to keep things interesting.

Paxton is convincing as an honest man who finds himself corrupted by his seemingly innocent ideas, as is Briscoe, who seems particularly at ease in the role of a down-and-out alcoholic. Bridget Fonda is a bit uneven as Paxton's wife, who is shocked at first by her husband's actions but soon becomes a willing accomplice.

surpasses even his past performances ence, but thankfully also knows when in "Sling Blade" and "One False to say when.

Title: "A Simple Plan" Stars: Bill Paxton, Billy Bob Thornton, Bridget Fonda, Brent Briscoe

Director: Sam Raimi Rating: R (language, violence, sexual content)

Grade: A

Five Words: Conventional story with unconventional twists

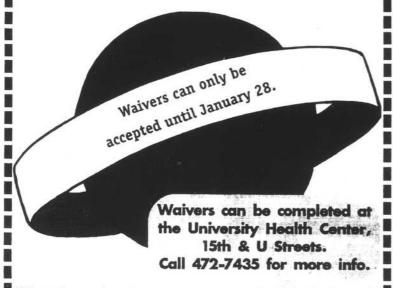
Move" as the dimwitted Jacob. As the tragedies and complications in his life arise, Thornton's character methodically evolves from a day-today slacker into a morally driven, philosophical man. Through his conversations with other characters, especially with Paxton's, he reveals every subtlety of his character; and he does so in good time, always knowing when to let the next trait slip.

At the end of it all, it seems as though Jacob is a personification of what "A Simple Plan" is all about the corruption of blind innocence, and its equally disheartening and uplifting results.

Much more than a remake or a But the film's best performance rehash, "A Simple Plan" is a film that comes courtesy of Thornton, who knows not only what to give its audi-

ATTENTION INTERNATIONAL UDENTS!

■ Have you completed the student insurance waiver form? ■



UNL requires mandatory insurance coverage to comply with immigration regulations. International students are to show proof of insurance or they will be billed for the UNL student health insurance plan on their tuition statements. A charge of \$207.00 per semester will be added to tuition bills unless a waiver is obtained from the Student Insurance Coordinator at the University Health Center.

Zack Hexum "Introducing ..." What Have You Records

It can take local musicians several years to get a break they need. For jazz prodigy Zack Hexum, it was as easy as asking his big brother.

Zack Hexum, the younger brother of Nick Hexum, lead vocalist and guitarist of 311, has shown that there is yet more musical talent in the fam-

Zack is a 20-year-old who attends North Texas State, which is considered the top jazz saxophone school in Hexum is the real the nation. There, Zack plays lead tenor in the top lab band. He has also recently released his first album with the obvious title "Introducing ..."

"Introducing ..." proves that having a brother in the music industry is not without its perks.

The album is produced by Nick Hexum and has been released on his own What Have You Records, the same label that released 311's Omaha released records, "Dammit!," "Unity" and "Hydroponic." The record was mixed by 311 producer Scott "Scotch" Ralston, adding some big names to a debut album.

However, of the 311 talent pool

"Introducing ..." is from 311's drummer Chad Sexton. While 311's sound doesn't involve many beats, Sexton's rudimentary drum background gives a fresh feel to the music, loosely playing styles ranging from jazz

New Releases

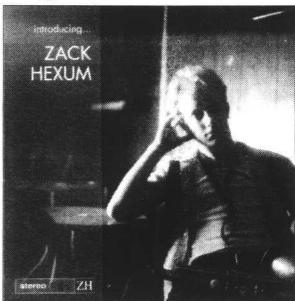
to almost hip-hop. Still, Zack star here. His funky jazz style incorporates numerous instruments, including

tenor, alto and soprano saxophones, flute, keyboards, piano, guitar and bass, all of which he plays himself.

Plus, all of the songs were written by Zack and each features a different style, such as jazz with reggae, funk and salsa grooves.

With Zack not afraid to twist the songs in all different directions as he goes, the solos really stand out.

Favorites include "Hective," charused, the biggest effect on acterized by its strong, recurring



melody, as well as the subtle "Last Night's Dream," with its mild saxophone that occasionally will go after a high note. Directly contrasting "Last Night's Dream" is "What the Hell," where Sexton drops some fat beats in the style of 311's "Don't Stay Home.

Above all, "Introducing ..." is a nice and relaxing debut by an artist who should be making a big name for himself in years to come.

-Patrick Miner